



The EAGLE

Eastern Nebraska Veterans' Home

12505 S. 40th, Bellevue NE 68123

(402)595-2180

**December
2012**



ENVH Administrator: Mr. Jeff Smith

**Inside this
issue:**

Administrator's comments
continued on page 2

Medals
December B-day list
Employee Of Month

Spotlight on Members of
Month per neighborhood
Members Meetings

Honoring 54 staff article
Various Photos.....

In loving memory of...
Chaplain's Corner

MEMBER COUNCIL

- Alice Blackford, President
- Barbara Lamb, Dedication Representative
- John Albers, Service Representative
- At large: Bob Cope and Dale Murphy
- **Meets on the last Wednesday each month at 10:00 am in the Multi-Purpose Room (MR)**
- **All members are welcome!**

November was a great month.

Veterans Day, as usual, was a wonderful event thanks to the work of a lot of people. Many of the 280 people who attended appreciated the color guard by our members and the group of musicians from Offutt who did very well. Special thanks and appreciation go to representatives from the U. S. Strategic Command, the 55th Wing and the Air Force Weather Agency as well as many active duty and retired service men and women who attended. We were also glad to welcome Mr. Kerry Winterer, CEO of the Department of Health and Human Services and Dr. Marci Mylan, Director of the USVA Nebraska-Western Iowa Health Care System. Thanks also go to the Memorial Garden Team for making so much progress with our garden and to so many who were recognized for their contributions with benches and plaques in their honor.

On November 12 we hosted the National Commander of the American Legion, James Koutz. He toured ENVH and learned about Nebraska's commitment to veterans' services. As the former director of the Indiana Department of Veterans Services, he was very impressed with our home and the state's ongoing support of veterans' care.

In honor of National Hospice Month we also honored 54 of our staff care technicians who completed a 6-hour program on hospice and palliative care which was developed by the USVA. The program specifically addresses many of the unique issues veterans and their families have with pain and suffering.

Continued on next page.....

Continued from front page:

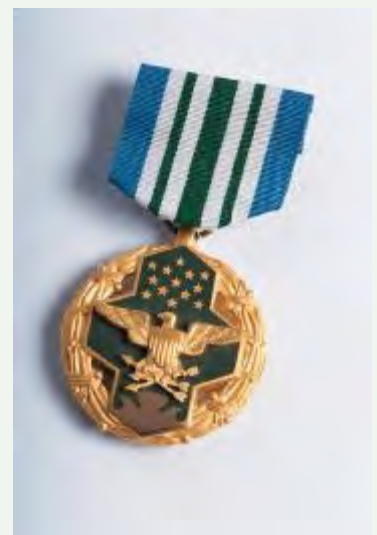
Special thanks and appreciation for this effort go to Dawnette Bredberg, ENVH Director of Nursing for supporting this major effort, Michelle Tegtmeier, RN, who taught the class, and to our scheduling team of Judy Lemke and Teresa Guyott for making it happen while still providing staff on the units to care for members.

We had the pleasure of providing a site for the 90th birthday for one of our members. The member and his family were pleased they could have a site which could accommodate 15 family members.

And of course special kudos for the month go to our Dietary Team for preparing a wonderful Thanksgiving meal for members and their guests.

Yes the holidays are here and with that a wonderful time of year to celebrate and be thankful for so many who make our mission of service possible.

Attention Members: If you have not received your military service medals or need replacements, either you or your family are asked to contact Jean Lakin, Ombudsman either during her regular visits or you can call the Home's direct line at 402-595-2180 "O" for operator who can take a message for Jean, No Later than Dec.15. Thank you.



December Birthdays

December 10 Florence Clements Dedication

December 15 Russell Kennedy Motivation

December 17 Paul Hammerly Motivation

December 26 Leonard Harris Allegiance

December 29 Edward Tharnish Motivation



Happy Birthday to each of you!
You deserve a truly happy day!
And many more!!!!

Employee of the
Month (EOM)
December 2012

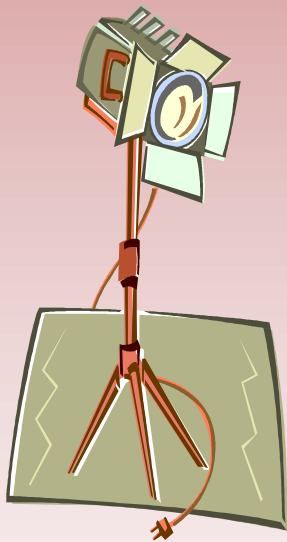
Congrats!



Mark Edwards
Facility Maintenance Specialist

Member Spotlight

We are shining a spotlight on.....



**Thank you for your
service to the United
States of America**



**We are honored to
serve those who
served!**

Leonard Harris...Allegiance Neighborhood
Service: U.S. Army during WW II

Kenneth Roy...Dedication Neighborhood
Service: U.S. Navy during WW II

Ernest McFarland...Motivation Neighborhood
Service: U.S. Army during WW II

Donald Allwine...Service Neighborhood
Service: U.S. Navy during Vietnam War

Members' Meetings

For December 2012:

- **Dedication Neighborhood Town Hall Meeting:** This is a monthly meeting to discuss future activities for the members residing in the **Dedication Neighborhood**. It is scheduled on **Tuesday, December 11th @ 1:30 pm.** The meeting is held in the Dedication neighborhood.
- **Facility Activity Meeting:** This monthly meeting allows members an opportunity to discuss future activities highlighting the month of **January 2013.** It is scheduled on **Wednesday, December 12th at 10:00 am** in the Multi-Purpose Activity Room.
- **Monthly Member Council Meeting:** This meeting is always on the last Wednesday. They will meet on **December 26** in the Multi-Purpose Room starting at **10:00am.** Please plan to come to the meeting. All members are welcome to join.

Attention All Members: Please **SIGN** up for Outings and Shopping Trips. The sign up sheets are posted within your neighborhood.

Also: For more information please contact the activity staff of the Recreation Department: Sarah Ryan (Activity Supervisor), Sara Stalzer, Pat Hopp, Sue Sheely

Our Family Council Corner

There is a wonderful group of family members who meet each month on the 2nd Thursday, 10:00 a.m. at the Home. They discuss many issues concerning the members and their families. Also, they are a great support system for each other.

The next meeting will be **December 13, 2012**

Please plan to see what it's all about!

President: Mrs. Jean Funkhouser

For more information please contact Social Services.

Our Ombudsman's Corner

Ombudsmen are dedicated to enhancing the lives of long term care residents.

Ombudsmen:

*** Advocate for residents' rights and quality care.

*** Educate consumers & providers

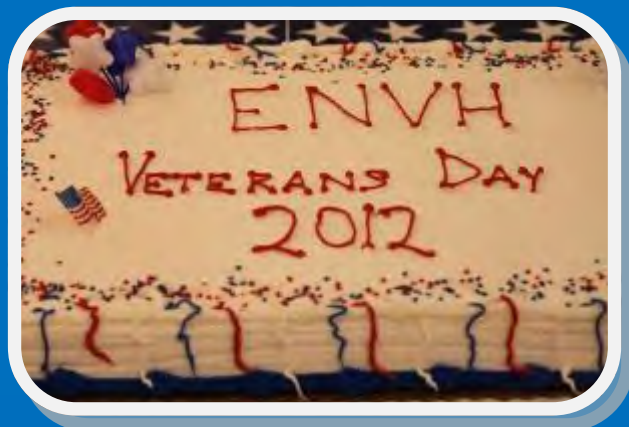
*** Resolve residents' complaints

*** Provide information to the public

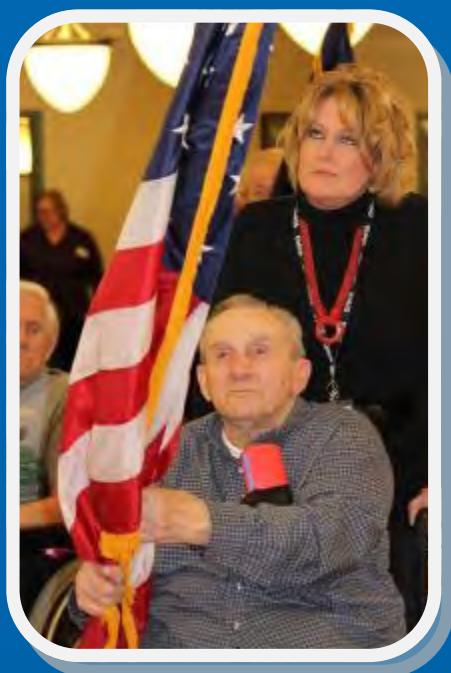
ENVH:

JEAN LAKIN

OMBUDSMAN



Veterans Day 2012





Members, staff and volunteers were treated to an early meal to celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday at the VFW Post 10727 or better known as Gilmore Lake.

Special thanks to Lois Tobias and Carol Brosnihan for setting everything up and preparing the good food!

Thank you!!



Dollar Days!

The Dept. of NE American Legion Auxiliary had a party in early November. They brought cookies, gifts for each member and a musical show by "Yesterday's Kids" as seen to the left.



The U.S. Army Band called “The Volunteers” performed at the Eastern Nebraska Veterans’ Home in early November 2012. They were so talented and provided an amazing and entertaining show! We hope they come back as often as possible.



Holiday Trees

On November 26th: 50 active duty military folks from the 55th CONS and several DoD personnel helped set up 15 holiday trees and decorated all of them within 2 hours! We appreciate their support!





At top: The Columbus Jazz Orchestra

Middle: 3rd graders from Avery Elem.

Bottom: Momma Clowns with Member Claude S. They have given over 500 Birthday balloons since 2007.

VETERANS' HOME HONORS 54 STAFF

The Eastern Nebraska Veterans' Home recently awarded 54 staff care technicians with certificates of participation in an educational series "The Veteran Clinical Review for Hospice and Palliative Nursing Assistant."

The course was specially targeted to nursing assistants who care for veterans. It included end-of-life issues, with emphasis on what makes the dying process different for veterans. Topics included: Pain Management at the End-of-Life, Management of Other Symptoms at the End-of-Life, Communicating at the End-of-Life and Care of the Veteran and Family when Death is Nearing.

The class series was taught by the home's Clinical Nurse Educator Michele Tegtmeier, RN who is a Hospice Nurse Educator. According to Tegtmeier, "Taking care of someone-especially a veteran-during the dying process is a great responsibility. This is a unique opportunity to help our veterans with the challenges they may face. We wanted our nursing assistants who often spend the most time with our veterans and families be knowledgeable about end of life topics."

According to Jeff Smith, the facility's administrator, "I appreciate the United States Veterans Administration which created this program, the 54 staff who took part in these classes to provide better care for Veterans in their time of need and Ms. Michelle Tegtmeier, RN, our staff trainer, who is one of the few certified educators to teach this class in the state."

The nursing assistants are now eligible to apply for a national certification exam for Hospice and Palliative Care Nursing Assistants which is offered through collaboration between the United States Veterans Administration and the Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association.

Please visit <http://www.dhhs.ne.gov/Veterans/> to learn more about the Eastern Nebraska Veterans' Home.

The Veterans' Home is a facility operated by the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services and is one of four state operated Veterans Homes.



In loving memory of.....

**Ted Bersane 8/14/1930 – 11/01/2012 U.S. Army
Korean War**

**MEMORIAL SERVICE: Thursday, December 6, 2012.
The service will be held in ENVH's Chapel at 10:00 a.m.**

Chaplain's Corner

By Chaplain Dale

Weekly Church Services

Sundays

9:45 a.m. All Faiths Service in the Chapel

10:45 a.m. Catholic Communion Service
in the Chapel

Mondays

9:30 a.m. Devotional Reading Time in the
Service Neighborhood

10:00 a.m. Devotional Reading Time in
the Allegiance Neighborhood

Thursdays

10:00 a.m. Bible Study in the Chapel

10:00 a.m. Memorial Services will be
held as necessary on the first Thursday

1:00 p.m. Catholic Mass in the Chapel

Fridays

10:00 a.m. Rosary Service in the Chapel

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16) This is often called the Golden Text of the Bible. It tells us of a God who loves us and offers us something so valuable-- eternal life! The Christmas season is a wonderful reminder of how He expressed His love by sending Jesus into our world to secure that valuable gift. But as with any gift, it is only of value to each of us when we accept or receive it. Daily we each experience God's wonderful gift of life itself. My prayer for you would be that you also experience God's even more wonderful gift of eternal life!